

SPAWN



148



DIGITAL
EDITION

SPAWN.COM

random patterns

part 01

PLOT

TODD McFARLANE
BRIAN HOLGUIN

STORY

BRIAN HOLGUIN

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SPAWN 147 SUMMARY

His memories taken from him by Mammon, Spawn wanders the country in search of something he doesn't understand. This journey has led Spawn to Minnesota, where a small family in the wilderness welcomes him. Awakened in the middle of the night by howls of wolves, Spawn ventures outside.

A group of hunters are in a very bad situation when a pack of unnaturally large wolves turn the tables on them. As the lives of the hunters come close to being extinguished, Spawn intervenes, attacking the wolves and saving the hunters' lives.

After fighting off the wolves, Spawn continues his journey unaware that the family that took him in was actually the wolves that attacked the hunters.

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TODD McFARLANE
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CHICAGO,
ILLINOIS.

IT'S
STRANGE
SOMEHOW.
HOW ONE
CITY CAN
FEEL SO
COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT
FROM
ANOTHER.

THEY'RE
ALL JUST
ROADS AND
BUILDINGS
AND PEOPLE,
BUT EACH
HAS ITS OWN
DISTINCT
FINGERPRINT,
ITS OWN
ENERGY.

THIS CITY
HUMS WITH
UNKNOWN
ENGINES, WITH
GREAT HIDDEN
PLANS. GREAT
MUSCLES
SLOWLY
TIGHTENING
BENEATH THE
FLESH.

IT IS A
PLACE OF
ABATOIRS
AND RAIL
YARDS AND
BALLPARKS,
OF MARVELS
SHAPED IN
GLASS AND
STONE.

A CITY
THAT ONCE
BURNED TO
THE GROUND
AND
RESPONDED
BY
REACHING
FOR HEAVEN.


THE DIN OF
THIS PLACE
IS OVER-
POWERING.
THE BABEL
CHOIR OF
OVER-
LAPPING
VOICES, THE
SWIRL OF
SCENTS AND
COLORS.

FIELD
OF
CUE
CREAM
SMOOT
LEY FIELD


BUT THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE,
LIKE A RADIO FREQUENCY FADING
IN AND OUT. *SOMEONE* IS TRYING
TO TELL ME SOMETHING.

THANK
YOU.


THE ONLY
QUESTION
IS, WHO?




AT FIRST I BARELY NOTICED IT. YOU HAVE TO LOOK HARD. BUT THEN, ONCE YOU SEE IT, YOU CAN'T STOP SEEING IT.




It's EVERYWHERE.




IT'S AS IF THE WHOLE WORLD WAS ALIVE. THE EARTH, THE SKY, THE CITY ITSELF.



I JUST CAN'T QUITE WORK OUT WHAT IT'S SAYING.




IT'S ALIVE AND AWARE. AND IT'S TALKING TO ME.



IT'S LIKE SOME INTRICATE, COMPLEX CODE FOR ME TO DECIPHER AND JUST WHEN I THINK I HAVE A GRASP ON IT, IT DISSOLVES AWAY INTO RANDOM NOTHINGNESS.



I THINK...



I THINK I MIGHT BE LOSING MY MIND.

MAMMON DID SOMETHING TO ME. MESSED WITH MY HEAD, MESSED WITH MY MEMORIES. LEFT ME DOUBTING MYSELF.

UGH!

I'M SCARED TO ACT, BECAUSE THAT COULD BE PLAYING INTO HIS HANDS. BUT IF I DON'T ACT, WELL MAYBE THAT'S PLAYING INTO HIS HANDS.

IS HE SENDING ME THESE MESSAGES? TAUNTING ME? OR IS IT SOMEONE ELSE?

OR AM I JUST SEEING THINGS?

EVENTUALLY, ALL THE NOISE FALLS AWAY AND I'M LEFT WITH ONE THOUGHT THAT KEEPS TURNING IN MY HEAD, POUNDING LIKE A JACKHAMMER.

SOMETHING I'VE NEVER HAD TO FEAR BEFORE.

WHAT IF I... IT... SPAWN... THIS UNSPEAKABLY DEADLY BEING WITH SO MUCH POWER AT MY/ITS CONTROL... IS GOING INSANE?

"WHOM THE GODS WOULD DESTROY, THEY FIRST MAKE MAD..."

WHO SAID THAT? I CAN'T RECALL.



There's no place
like HOME!

Do you have what
it takes... to be a
HERO?

HAVE I
BEEN TO
CHICAGO
BEFORE?
IT SEEMS
LIKE IT. I'VE
GOT THAT
"DEJA VU
ALL OVER
AGAIN"
FEELING
IN SPADES.
MAYBE
WHEN I
WAS A KID,
WITH MY
PARENTS.

WHO WERE MY PARENTS
ANYWAY? I'M TRYING TO
PLACE THEM, BUT THEY SEEM
LIKE FACELESS MANNEQUINS,
CHARACTERS FROM A DREAM.

MAYBE I WAS ON
ASSIGNMENT HERE.

PERHAPS
I KILLED
SOMEONE.

HEY,
GIMME A
DOG AND
A POP,
PLEASE.



HEY, COME BACK! WE WANNA TALK TO YOU.

YEAH. LISTEN, I'LL GIVE YOU TWENTY BUCKS IF YOU LET MY FRIEND HERE SPIT IN YOUR FACE. COME ON, EASIEST MONEY YOU EVER MADE.

LEAVE ME ALONE! I AIN'T HURTING NO ONE!

LISTEN, I GOTTA TAKE A WICKED LEAK...

OKAY, SO IT'S TWENTY BUCKS IF YOU LET HIM SPIT ON YOU. FIFTY IF YOU LET HIM PISS ON YOUR LEG! COME ON, TOOTS! BE A SPORT!



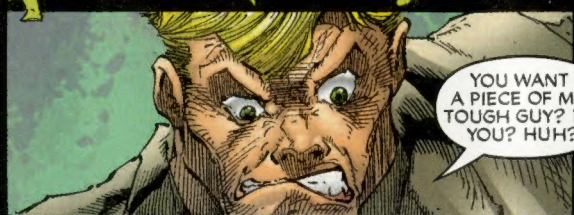
LEAVE HER ALONE.



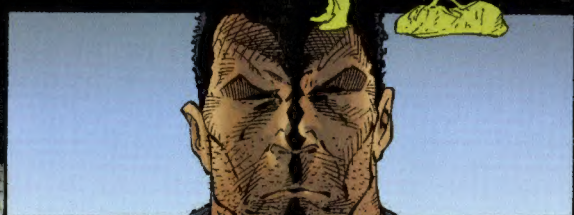


YOU SAY
SOMETHING,
FAGGOT?

LEAVE
HER
ALONE.



YOU WANT
A PIECE OF ME,
TOUGH GUY? DO
YOU? HUH?

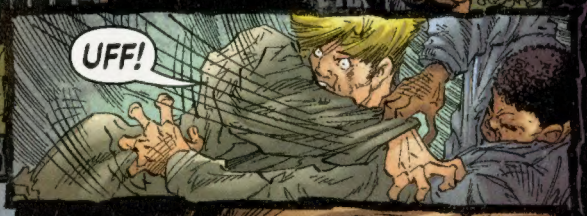


THAT'S
WHAT I
THOUGHT.

I GOT
TO ADMIT
IT FEELS
GOOD.



LET HIS
OWN
MOMENTUM
SPIN HIM
AROUND.



UFF!



KNEE
IN THE
BACK,
DOUBLE
HIM
OVER.



A LITTLE PRESSURE ON
THE ELBOW AND THE
REST IS JUST LEVERAGE.



I CAN FEEL
THE BONE START
TO GIVE WAY.

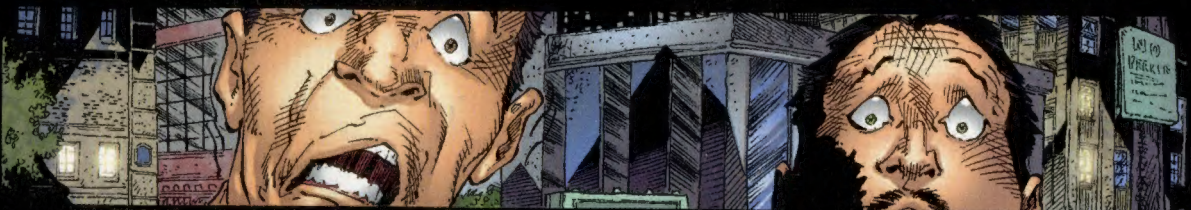


AAAAGH!



THIS RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW, I CAN CONTROL. NO DOUBT, NO FEAR. JUST THE SWEET COLD RUSH OF ADRENALINE AND PRIMAL INSTINCT.

IT FEELS REAL GOOD.





JESUS, CALL
AN
AMBULANCE!

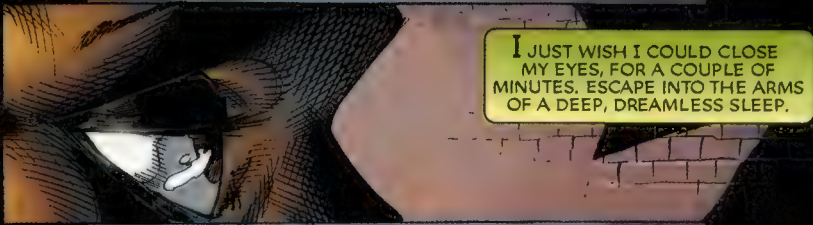
"A GREAT
UNRAVELLING."
THAT WAS WHAT
THE FORGOTTEN
ONE SAID.

HE TOLD ME
MAMMON
WAS USING ME
AS A TOOL,
UNMAKING
THE LAWS OF
CREATION.

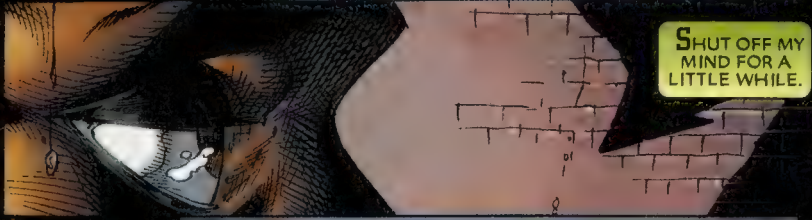
GREAT FORCES HELD
IN CHECK WILL BE LET
LOOSE. CREATURES
THAT HAVE DWELLED
IN SHADOW WILL BE
SET FREE UPON THE
WORLD.

A NEW
REBELLION. A
SECOND WAR
IN HEAVEN.

AND SOMEHOW,
I'M AT THE CENTER
OF IT ALL. IT'S LIKE
AN ENDLESS, WAKING
NIGHTMARE. JUST
WAITING FOR THE
AXE TO FALL.



I JUST WISH I COULD CLOSE MY EYES, FOR A COUPLE OF MINUTES. ESCAPE INTO THE ARMS OF A DEEP, DREAMLESS SLEEP.



SHUT OFF MY MIND FOR A LITTLE WHILE.



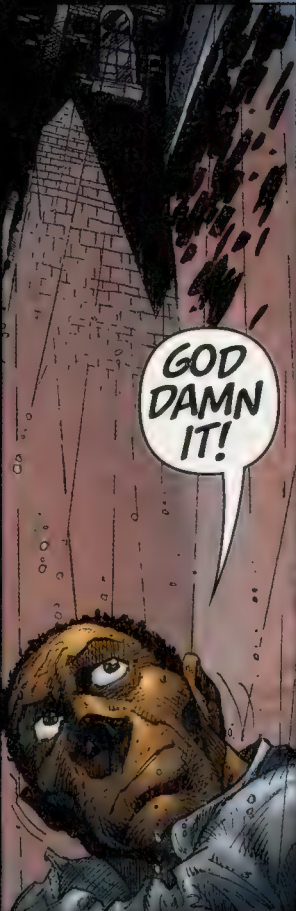
PLEASE...



NO SUCH LUCK.

THIS CITY ISN'T GOING TO LET ME SLEEP.

NOT TONIGHT.



GOD DAMN IT!



I FOLLOW
THE
SHADOWS,
INTO THE
DARKNESS.
INTO MY
ELEMENT.

THEY GATHER
AROUND ME, ATTEND
ME LIKE SERVANTS.

THEY
SHIFT
AND
BEND
AND
RESHAPE
THE
WORLD.

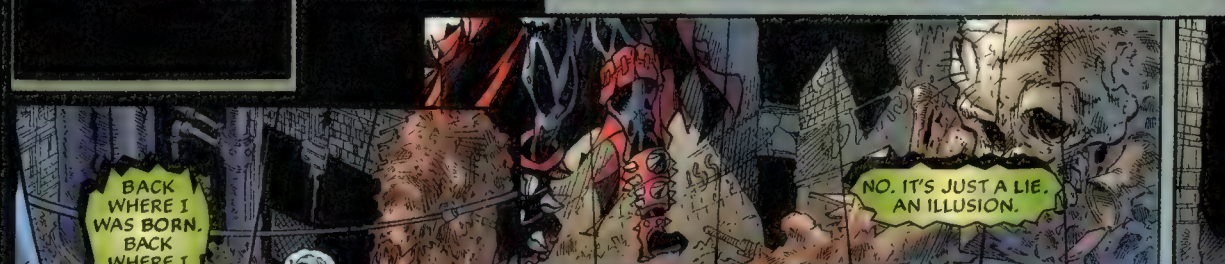
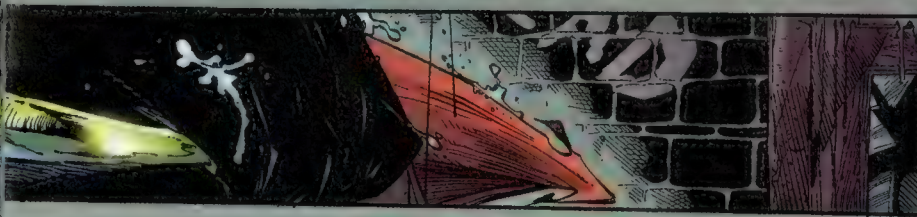
SOMETHING'S NOT
RIGHT. THE MAZE
OF ALLEYS GOES
ON TOO FAR,
TOO DEEP.

AND SUDDENLY,
SOMEHOW...



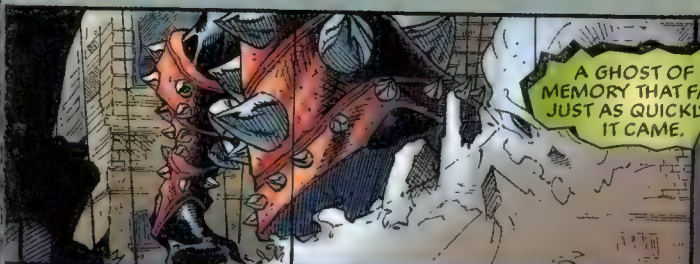
THESE
ARE
THE
SE
BELON
SPAWN

I'M BACK
WHERE I
STARTED.



BACK
WHERE I
WAS BORN.
BACK
WHERE I
WAS...

NO. IT'S JUST A LIE.
AN ILLUSION.




A GHOST OF A
MEMORY THAT FADES
JUST AS QUICKLY AS
IT CAME.




SOMEONE IS
TRYING TO
TELL ME
SOMETHING...

WHOEVER
YOU ARE, YOU
HAVE MY
ATTENTION.




CAN'T YOU SEE YOU'VE LOST YOUR MIND? GET SOME HELP, GOD DAMN IT. WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?

NO. THIS IS REAL.
SOMEONE'S WATCHING.
SOMEONE'S TRYING TO TALK TO ME.



IT SOUNDS LIKE SOME ADOLESCENT POWER FANTASY. YOU'RE NOT REALLY SOME HOMELESS LOSER WHO'S LOSING HIS GRIP ON REALITY...

SECRETLY
YOU'RE THIS ALL-POWERFUL BEING,
AT THE CENTER
OF THE WORLD'S
GREATEST
CONSPIRACY.




I DIDN'T ASK FOR THIS.

I JUST WANT THE TRUTH.

SKREEETCH!



WHOA!
GET OUT OF THE WAY!



THOUGH THE HEAVENS MAY FALL...

THE TRUTH...

I'M TIRED OF HIDING.



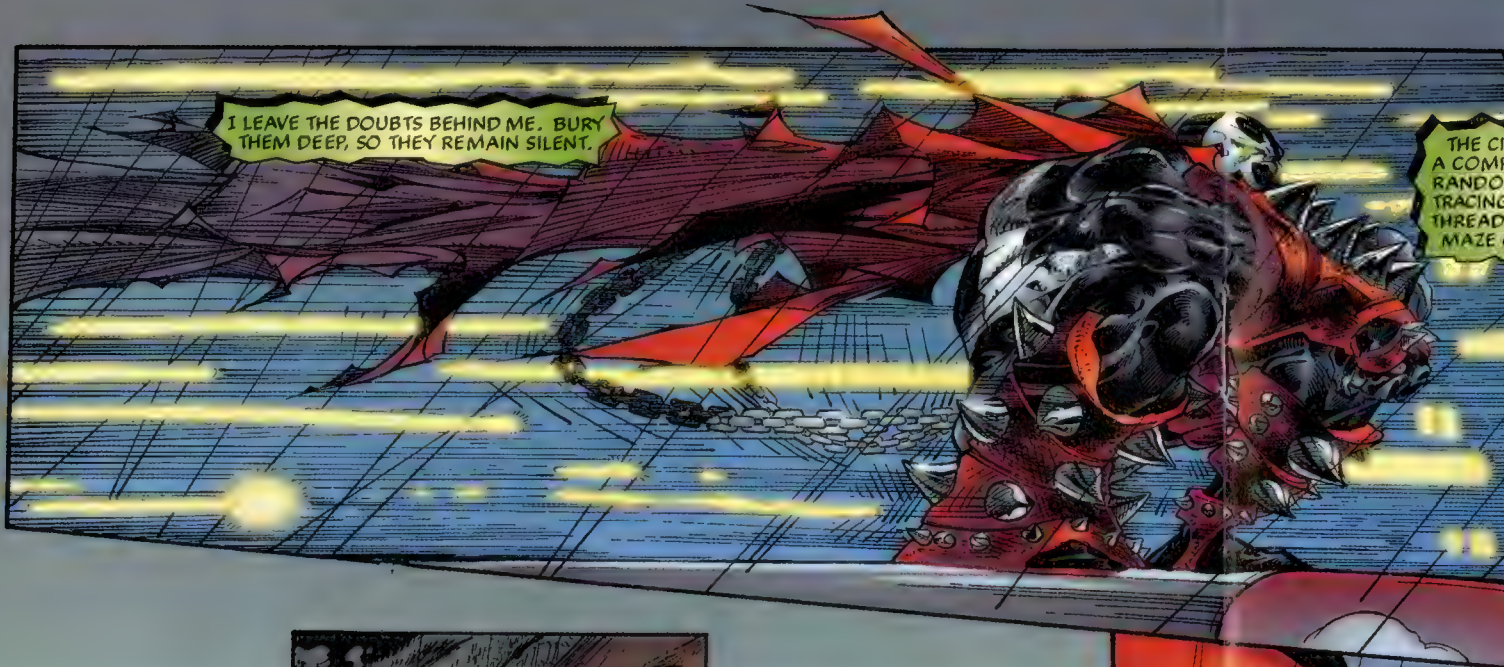
DID YOU SEE THAT?

I JUST WANT IT TO END...



I WANT
TO KNOW
THE
TRUTH...

WHO
THE
HELL
AM
I?




I LEAVE THE DOUBTS BEHIND ME. BURY THEM DEEP, SO THEY REMAIN SILENT.

THE CITY SPEAKS...
A COMPLEX CODE OF
RANDOM PATTERNS...
TRACING AN INVISIBLE
THREAD THROUGH THE
MAZE OF THE CITY.

A BILLBOARD HERE...
A SHADOW THERE...
A NEON SIGN
REFLECTED IN A
PUDDLE OF WATER.


IT'S SO CLEAR
I CAN'T MISS.
IT MOVES
ME IN A
NARROWING
SPIRAL, EVER
CLOSER TO
THE SOURCE.



SOON THE WIND
SPEAKS TO ME...THE
RAIN ITSELF...THE VERY
BRICKS AND STONES
OF THE BUILDINGS...
A DEEP AND STEADY
THRUM THAT
DRAWS ME IN.

LIKE A
MOTH
TO A
FLAME...

OR A LAMB
TO THE
SLAUGHTER.



THIS IS IT?
THIS OLD
CHURCH?

CHURCH
OF THE
HOLY
REDEEMER



WHO'S
THERE?



WHAT
DO YOU
WANT WITH
ME?



I SAID
WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?

IF YOU HAVE
SOMETHING TO
SAY, SAY IT! IF YOU
WANT A FIGHT,
THEN BRING IT!

I DIDN'T
ASK FOR
THIS. NONE
OF IT.



THE
WORLD'S
COMING TO
AN END AND
I'M NOT SURE
THAT I CARE.
MAYBE IT'S
FOR THE
BEST...

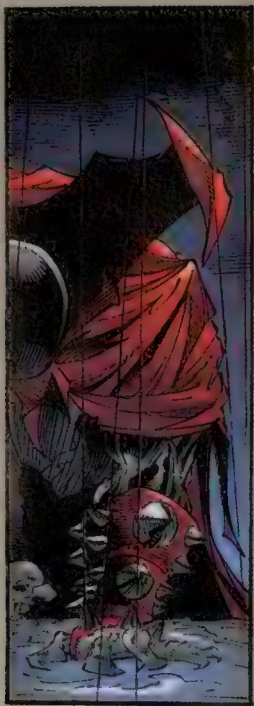


PERHAPS
I SHOULD LET
MAMMON
HAVE HIS LITTLE
VICTORY. LET THIS
PATHETIC LITTLE
PLANET BE TORN
TO SHREDS.



NONE OF US
ASKED FOR THIS.
FROM THE FIRST
MAN WHO EVER DREW
BREATH TO THE LAST
CHILD EVER TO BE
BORN, WE DIDN'T
ASK FOR THIS.

LET IT
END. LET IT
ALL UNRAVEL.
SPARE COUNT-
LESS GENERATIONS
OF THE UNBORN
FROM THE
HORROR OF
THIS LIFE.



YOU
ARE THE
WORST
OF THEM ALL.
THE FATHER OF
ALL MISERES. YOU
CREATE THIS WORLD,
FILL IT WITH
SUFFERING...
WITH PAIN AND
WANT AND
DESPAIR...

YOU
TEASE
US WITH THE
PROMISE OF
AN AFTERLIFE,
OF ETERNAL
REST...

BUT
IT'S ALL A
SICK JOKE.
THERE IS
NO REST.
NOT FOR
ME.

NOT FOR
ANYONE.



TELL ME,
ARE YOU
PROUD
OF YOUR-
SELF?



I DIDN'T
CREATE
HELL...YOU
DID.

I DIDN'T
MAKE THE DEVIL...
YOU DID!
I MAY BE A SINNER,
BUT YOU
CREATED SIN.

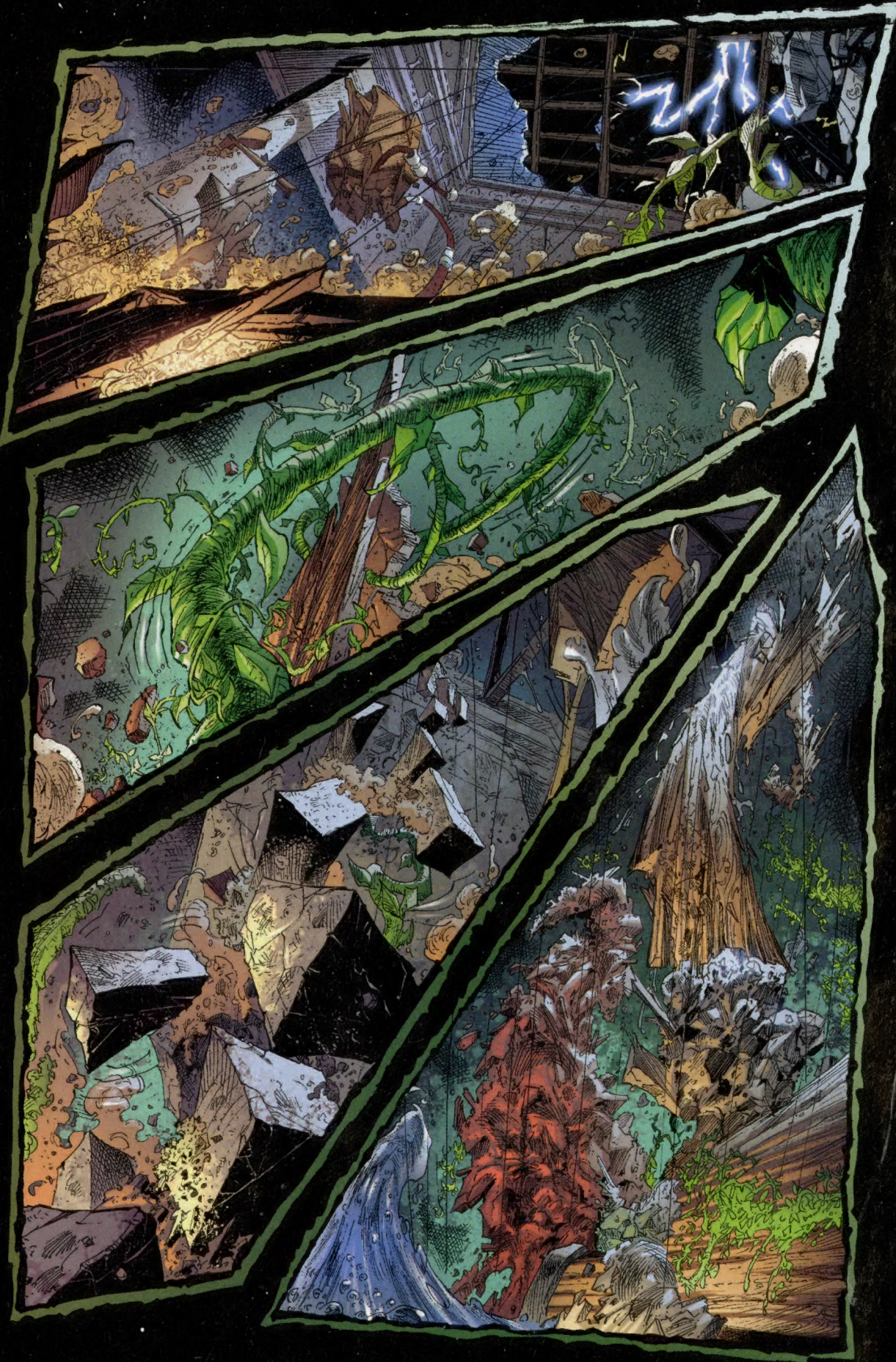
I NEVER
ASKED TO COME
BACK TO LIFE.
WHAT REASON
COULD I POSSIBLY
HAVE TO RETURN TO
THIS WRETCHED
PLACE?

A DEVIL PICKED
ME OUT OF A SEA OF
SOULS AND SAID, "YOU
THERE! YOU WORK
FOR ME!"

STILL, THERE
MUST HAVE BEEN
SOMETHING...A
SMALL MOMENT...OF
SOMETHING GOOD
AND BEAUTIFUL...

THERE MUST
HAVE BEEN SOME-
ONE, SOMETHING
I LOVED. ONCE
UPON A TIME...

I JUST CAN'T
REMEMBER.







LET'S
BRING
DOWN
THE
HOUSE.





Tyrant
Lizard
King

EMPIRE